

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Annual Report on Childcare
Date: May 8, 2000

Recommended Action:

Receive the annual reports on childcare programs at the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and the University of Northern Iowa.

Executive Summary:

Each university has successful family oriented programs that include participation in community referral services and on-campus care. Availability of childcare is important in the recruitment and retention of students as well as for faculty and staff.

The University of Northern Iowa is proposing a 3% increase in its childcare budget. The University of Iowa is proposing an increase of 3%. Development of the childcare budget at Iowa State University is pending development of university and Board budget policy and determination of the level of state appropriations. The childcare budgets will be a part of the presentation on preliminary budgets in June.

The contributions by the universities to the on-campus centers allow for lower fees to be charged student parents. The centers could not continue to operate if they cared only for children of students within the current rate structures. The universities do not subsidize the fees paid by nonstudent parents at the campus centers except for basic infrastructure.

Background and Analysis:

The Board has been receiving annual reports on the childcare programs at the universities since 1989.

While there were specific appropriations for funding of childcare programs in the early 1990's, there has been no specific provision in the state budget related to childcare since that time. The Board and the institutions have continued to improve childcare support through the annual Regent budget process.

Each university provides on-campus care centers as well as participating in community referral services. All of the centers are operating at full capacity. Fees charged by the on-campus centers are comparable to those charged in communities surrounding the universities. All of the centers assess parent fees based on family incomes and/or student or staff status.

The campus centers employ approximately 200 students, most of whom are work-study students.

The University of Iowa has three centers sponsored by the University of Iowa Student Association (UISA). These centers are housed in university dwellings with the centers paying market-based rent. A separate Board of Directors governs each center. The center at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics is managed under contract by a for-profit organization. This center serves children of faculty and staff with those employed at the UIHC given priority. This center is housed in renovated space in Westlawn.

Iowa State University has two on-campus centers. The University Childcare Center is housed in Pammel Court. The center is operated by a nonprofit agency and receives funding from a variety of sources, including both direct and in-kind support from the university. The center, located near the College of Veterinary Medicine, is in its third year of operation. It is operated under contract to an outside vendor.

The Child Development Center at the University of Northern Iowa is a part of the curriculum of the College of Education and is housed in the basement of the Price Laboratory School.

Children of students occupy the majority of the slots at the childcare centers:

- SUI Student Government sponsored centers – 50%
- ISU Community Childcare – 72%
- ISU Veterinary Medicine Center – 60%
- UNI Child Development Center – 70%

While centers exist on each campus, childcare needs are not being fully addressed as demonstrated by large waiting lists for each center. All of the centers have experienced increases in numbers of children on waiting lists. For

example, the waiting list for the ISU Community Childcare Center in Pammel Court saw an increase of 42%, while the center at Veterinary Medicine saw a 47% increase in children on the waiting list.

- The University of Iowa Student Association centers have approximately 260 children on their waiting lists.
- The UIHC Center, which accepts only children of faculty and staff, has about 184 children on the waiting list.
- There are 204 children on the waiting list at ISU University Center and 337 at the Veterinary Medicine Center.
- The waiting list at the University of Northern Iowa consists of 85 children.

The University of Iowa also provides a direct subsidy to graduate students for childcare. A graduate or professional student who has a child under two may receive up to \$100 per month toward the cost of childcare, and a student who has a child above two may receive up to \$70 per month. The average cost for infant care in the Iowa City-Coralville area is between \$550 and \$600 per month, and three to five year old care is over \$400 per month. During the current academic year, 101 graduate student parents have been approved for reimbursement. Thirty-eight graduate student families are on a waiting list.

Financial support for the childcare programs at the universities for fiscal year 2000 and the proposed budgets for fiscal year 2001 are shown below.

	Fiscal Year 2000			Proposed Fiscal Year 2001			Percent Change
	General	Inkind	Total	General	Inkind	Total	
SUI	335,756	114,763	450,519	357,933	108,243	466,176	3%
ISU	192,430	160,546	352,976	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UNI	134,364	8,109	142,473	138,395	8,109	146,504	3%

In addition to university contributions, the centers are funded through parent fees, federal funds and other support.

The childcare centers provide practicum sites for students enrolled in various university degree programs. The Iowa State University center also serves as a practicum site for students from Des Moines Area Community College.

The universities recognize the need for additional childcare facilities on the campuses. The campus centers are all at operating capacity, and expansion is not possible within the existing structures.

Rather than set forth specific plans to meet childcare needs for the future as has been done in the past, the universities have chosen to approach the future in a more strategic fashion.

Last year the University of Iowa conducted a childcare needs assessment survey and is now working on strategies to implement the recommendations derived from the survey. In addition, priorities for the coming year will be to increase the awareness of the availability of childcare programs on the campus, try to enhance the childcare assistance provided to graduate students and look for more opportunities to partner with the surrounding communities on childcare issues.

During fiscal year 2000, members of the Iowa State University Childcare Committee (UCCC) participated in a planning process designed to guide the committee in its efforts over the course of the next five years. Goals were established as follows:

- Funding – Investigate additional sources of funding in order to provide accessible, affordable, quality childcare facilities and services for the ISU community.
- Policy – Assess current university policy, recommend change and influence future policies affecting children and families of the ISU community.
- Services – Provide accessible, affordable, quality childcare services and facilities to meet the diverse needs of the ISU community.
- Education – Foster awareness and appreciation for the diverse needs of children and families through education and public awareness.

The University of Northern Iowa Childcare Advisory Committee has selected the following goals for the coming year:

- Advocating the needs of children in the university environment
- Examining ways of determining ongoing needs for childcare at UNI
- Reapplying for student parent grants from student activity fees
- Seeking to expand availability of on-campus childcare for UNI students

Programs exist at each institution allowing eligible employees to establish spending accounts in compliance with Internal Revenue Service regulations to be used for childcare expenses.

Although the special schools do not sponsor childcare centers, both the Iowa School for the Deaf and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School lease space to not-for-profit childcare centers. Childcare services at the centers are available to the staff of the special schools as well as to the community.

Additional details from the annual reports are outlined in Attachment A -- Child Care Budgets; Attachment B -- Campus Childcare Facilities; Attachment C -- Community Childcare Referral Services; and Attachment D -- Activities.

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Locations of childcare centers on the campuses are shown in Attachments E, F, and G.

The individual annual reports are on file in the Regent Exhibit Book.

Marcia R. Brunson Approved: Frank J. Stork
Marcia R. Brunson Frank J. Stork

Attachment A

CHILDCARE BUDGETS

In June, the Board will act upon the individual preliminary budgets of the universities. The childcare budgets will be a part of the preliminary budgets.

University of Iowa

	FY 2000			Proposed FY 2001			Percent Change
	General	Inkind	TOTAL	General	Inkind	TOTAL	
Salary Support	31,876		31,876	32,833		32,833	3%
Operational Costs	1,400		1,400	1,400		1,400	0%
UI Administered Child Care Program							
Mildly Ill Child Care Stipend	5,000		5,000	5,000		5,000	0%
Grad. & Prof. Stud. Asst.	79,200		79,200	79,200		79,200	0%
Childcare Contractual Services							
4C's							
Resource and Referral	51,000		51,000	51,000		51,000	0%
Toy Lending Library		6,580	6,580				-100%
Childcare Centers/Programs							
Alice's Rainbow	92,650		92,650	97,390		97,390	5%
Brookland Woods	37,990		37,990	38,230		38,230	1%
U.P.C.C.	36,640		36,640	36,880		36,880	1%
University Preschool		1,860	1,860		1,920	1,920	3%
UIHC/Bright Horizons		106,323	106,323	16,000	106,323	122,323	15%
TOTAL	335,756	114,763	450,519	357,933	108,243	466,176	3%

Iowa State University (the fiscal year 2001 budget has not been developed)

	Projected FY 2000			Proposed FY 2001			
	General	Other Funds and Inkind	Total	General	Other Funds and Inkind	Total	Percent Change
University Community Childcare (Pammel Court)	29,000	93,071	122,071				
Flex Care Program	18,000	21,270	39,270				
Comfort Zone	33,200	16,980	50,180				
Center for Childcare Resources	11,174	10,259	21,433				
University Childcare Center at Veterinary Medicine	40,100	18,000	58,000				
Story County Infant Care Network	5,000	966	5,966				
Speaker and Program Fees	500	-	500				
YWCA Sitter's List	125	-	125				
ISU Childcare Brochure	500	-	500				
Salary, benefits, supplies, student assistance	54,831	-	54,831				
TOTAL	192,430	160,546	352,976				

University of Northern Iowa

University contributions to the Child Development Center (CDC) for fiscal year 2000 and proposed for fiscal year 2001 are:

	FY 2000	FY 2001
General Fund	\$134,364	\$138,395
Inkind	\$ 8,109	\$ 8,109
TOTAL	\$142,473	\$146,504

The CDC continues to serve student parents receiving childcare assistance from the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Promise Jobs. Currently, there are 6 children receiving DHS assistance and three children receiving Promise Jobs assistance. The CDC raised parent fees approximately 5% in August 1999.

A continuation of a student fee allocation (see G.D. 10) has been approved which will continue a voucher program to help student parents pay for childcare. Through the program, the Campus Childcare Committee will accept applications from UNI students and award up to \$500 per semester to student parents, based on the student's financial package. Undergraduate students would receive priority. During the first year of the program, 30 applications for assistance were received. The committee was able to fund 20 grants of \$500 each for the spring semester.

Attachment B**CAMPUS CHILDCARE FACILITIES**

University of Iowa: The childcare centers on the campus are operated by nonprofit corporations sponsored by the University of Iowa Student Association.

The university rents five houses for use by three centers – Alice's Rainbow, Brookland Woods, and University Parents Care Collective. The rent paid to the university is at the Iowa City market rate for comparable space. An increase of about 3% is proposed for 2000-2001. In honor of Mary Jo Small, Brookland Woods was re-named The Mary Jo Small Childcare Center at Brookland Woods.

The centers care for approximately 125 children. About 50% of the children are children of university students. The waiting lists for the UISA centers include 263 children.

Each center has a separate Board of Directors that establishes rates and sets policy.

All of the centers are licensed by the state. One center is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

Several university departments use the centers for observations and practicums.

The University of Iowa opened the UIHC Childcare Center in August 1994. The center, licensed for 108 children of employees, is housed in renovated space in Westlawn. First priority is given to children of health center faculty and staff.

The center is operated under contract by Bright Horizons Family Solutions. Bright Horizons is required to cover its operating costs by charging tuition rates comparable to those charged by other high quality centers in the same geographic area.

Approximately 184 children are on the waiting list for the UIHC Childcare Center.

The UIHC Childcare has its site visit for accreditation from the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs and will be notified as to the results in May 2000.

The centers on the University of Iowa campus employ about 90 students.

Iowa State University: Two childcare centers are located on the ISU campus.

University Community Childcare (UCC) at Iowa State University is housed in Pammel Court, a part of the Department of Residence. The center has 78 full-time slots for birth through school age with another 18 FTE slots available during the summer for school age childcare.

The center is operated as a nonprofit agency housed in university space. In addition to parent fees and federal funds, the center receives support from the community agency, ASSET, in addition to direct and in-kind support from the university.

As of March 2000, 204 ISU families have been placed on the waiting list for services at UCC, which is an increase of 42% over the previous year. Seventy-two percent of the clients served by UCC are student families. Currently, of this 72%, 83 families have a gross family income below 225% of the federal poverty guidelines.

University support for UCC includes partial funding of staff salaries and Department of Residence in-kind support of annual facility costs. UCC employees are also eligible to purchase health insurance through the university group plan.

The UCC includes the Comfort Zone, an area used for sick childcare. Currently, 272 children are pre-registered for care. Between August 1999 and March 2000, 116 children from 76 families (including 37 student families) received care.

The Flex-Care Program is a part-time childcare program exclusively for student families. As of March 2000, a total of 35 children of ISU student families have been served by this program. The Flex-Care program continues to be an attractive option for student families to attend classes. The program has a waiting list of 16 children.

A childcare center is located near the College of Veterinary Medicine and is in its third year of operation. The center has received accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The center has been designated as a Gold Seal quality child care facility by the Iowa Department of Human Services. Currently, 88 children are enrolled with 60% from ISU student families. A total of 337 children are on the waiting list which is an increase of 47% over the previous year.

The center serves as a practicum and research site for early childhood education students from both ISU and Des Moines Area Community College. The center has also served as a research site for architecture and landscape architecture students.

The campus childcare centers employed 50 students.

University of Northern Iowa: The Child Development Center at the University of Northern Iowa is a part of the College of Education and serves as a practicum site for student teaching. The center offers only full-time care. The center has space for 53 children. Seventy percent of these are children of students. The center is housed in space at the Price Laboratory School. Staff at the center

includes 75 student employees. The center has a waiting list of 85 names with approximately 70% from student families and 60% under age 3.

The waiting list for university families was expected to be dramatically reduced with the opening of three additional childcare facilities in the community in the past year. This reduction has not been the case.

Attachment C

COMMUNITY CHILDCARE REFERRAL SERVICES

University of Iowa: The university contracts with the Community Coordinated Childcare (4Cs), a community based nonprofit agency to provide childcare resource and referral services to university affiliated families.

Since the university makes a financial contribution, the referral service is provided free of charge to university staff and students. During the period of July 1, 1999, to February 1, 2000, there were 355 requests from students and staff affiliated with the university for referrals to childcare providers. Of those 355 requests, 144 were from students. An average of 75 minutes is spent in providing childcare referral services to a parent.

The 4Cs recruits and trains caregivers and manages the Best Beginnings Infant Care Program. During the period of July 1, 1999, to February 1, 2000, there were 186 requests from students and staff for referrals for infant care. Currently there are 47 Best Beginnings caregivers who provide 188 caregiving slots.

The Toy Lending Library loans out toys, large play equipment, and educational materials to parents and providers. For a childcare provider, the fee is \$15 annually. University student parents receive the service free of charge. Approximately 90 university-affiliated families accessed the program this year. The university provides an inkind contribution of space and utilities for the Toy Lending Library program.

Iowa State University: The university continues to collaborate with the Center for Childcare Resources (CCR), the community resource and referral agency located in Pammel Court.

The CCR, a part of the Statewide Resource and Referral Network which is funded by local, state and federal funds, maintains a database of over 611 childcare options for families within a four-county area in central Iowa. Over the past 12 months, 408 ISU families have used the CCR referral services in their search for childcare. Sixty-six percent of the ISU families served by the CCR were student families.

University of Northern Iowa: The university cooperates with the Childcare Coordination Resource and Referral Services (CCR&R).

Records kept by the CCR&R indicate that in the past 12 months, 52 UNI families were assisted in locating childcare. Student families accounted for 80% of those seeking childcare referrals. The number of students seeking care has increased about 20% from last year.

The CCR&R provides referral services in Black Hawk and adjacent counties. The CCR&R also provides ongoing training and technical assistance to childcare providers as well as ongoing recruitment for providers.

Attachment D

ACTIVITIES**University of Iowa**

In an effort to inform the university community of the services of the resource and referral program, four brown bag seminars describing child care services were held throughout the campus during the past year. Information on child care services is also presented during student and employee orientation. Two new activities initiated this academic year are (1) disseminating child care articles via university listservs; and, (2) a web page listing all child care centers available in the Johnson and Washington County areas.

In April 1998, the Family Issues Charter Committee in partnership with the Family Services Office and the Iowa Social Science Institute disseminated a childcare needs assessment survey to 5,828 students, faculty and staff. A total of 1,667 surveys were returned and have been analyzed. Data from the survey validates the concern that productivity and attendance can be negatively affected by childcare problems. Survey respondents reported using from 2.7 to 5.1 full days of leave over a six-month period to respond to childcare problems.

Survey results also indicate that child care problems had moderately or seriously affected approximately 13% of P&S staff and medical residents/fellows, 20% of faculty and merit staff, 36% of graduate students, and nearly 50% of undergraduate student survey respondents.

The survey also identified the growing need for school age childcare. The Family Services Coordinator is working with community school age childcare providers to explore the feasibility of expanding services for older children.

Johnson County is a recipient of an Empowerment Zone grant from the State of Iowa. Accessibility and availability of childcare has been highlighted as an area within the grant. Recognizing the interrelationship and interdependency between the community and the university, the Family Services Coordinator volunteered and was elected to serve on the Johnson County Empowerment Zone Board. The Family Services Coordinator is also a member of a community-wide work group studying the need for and the feasibility of a community-based mildly ill childcare program.

Iowa State University

The university continues to make significant progress toward addressing the childcare needs of students, faculty and staff. Progress in fiscal year 2000 included:

- Collaborating with Student Health Services to provide staffing for the Comfort Zone.
- Collaborating with community organizations to add six infant care providers to the Story County Infant Care Network.
- NAEYC accreditation for the University Childcare Center at Veterinary Medicine.

University of Northern Iowa

UNI Child Development Center: The Child Development Center (CDC) served 53 children in full-time care. Seventy percent were children of student parents. The center has a waiting list of approximately 85. The majority of the children on the waiting list are under three.

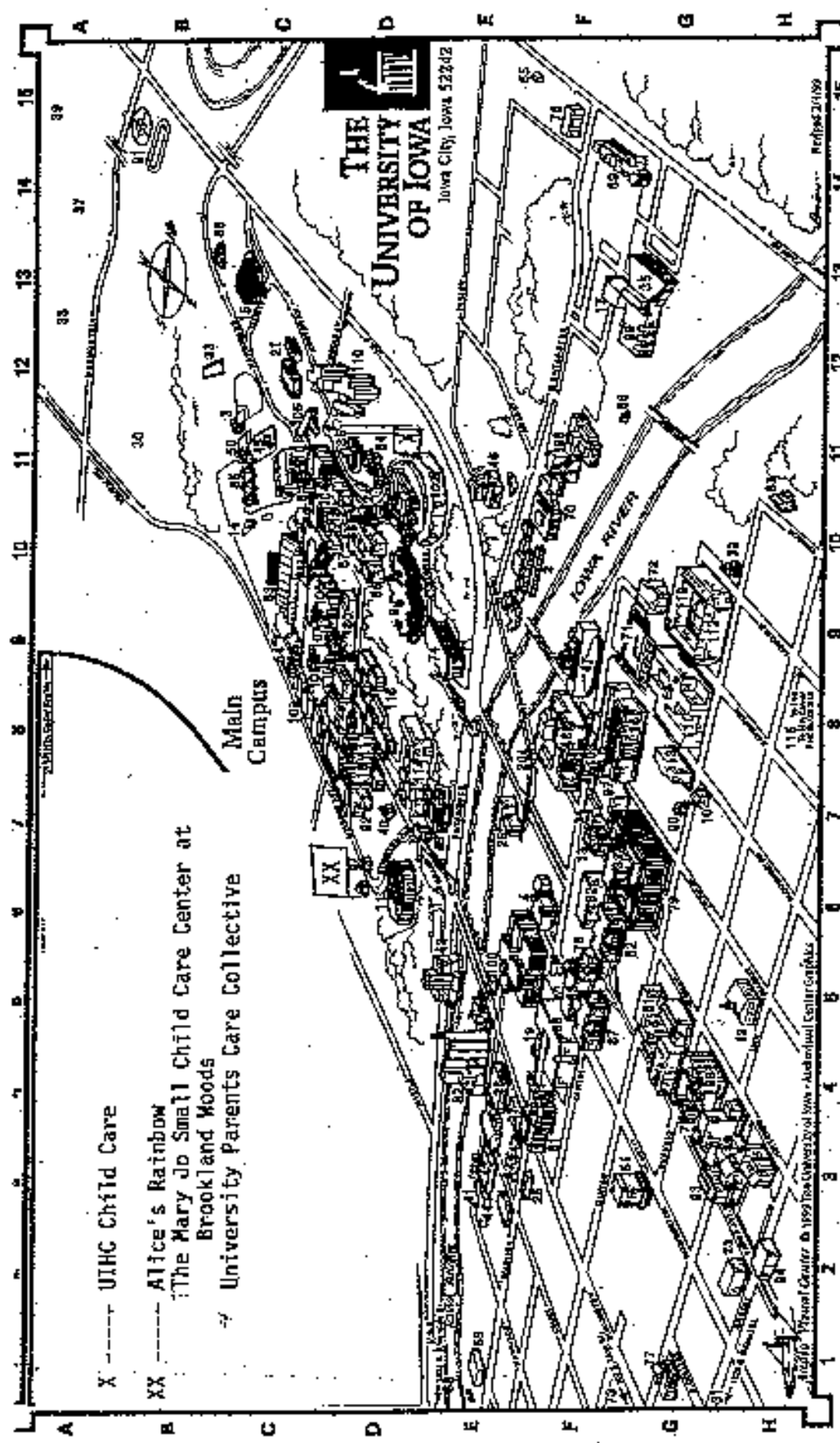
The CDC mission parallels that of the University of Northern Iowa. First, the CDC is deeply involved in teaching, both young children and university students. Second, the mission of research is carried out in all classrooms by practicing teachers and undergraduate and graduate students. Third, the center provides an extremely valuable service in providing quality and affordable childcare for students and staff. Fourth, the center provides a practicum site for approximately 80 university education students each semester. Finally, the CDC provides outreach training services for childcare professionals at all levels.

Activities Program for Children at University Apartments: University Apartments continue to offer recreation programs for children 2-12 who reside in the complex. The programs are staffed by students who are majoring in a field of study which will enable them to work with children when they graduate.

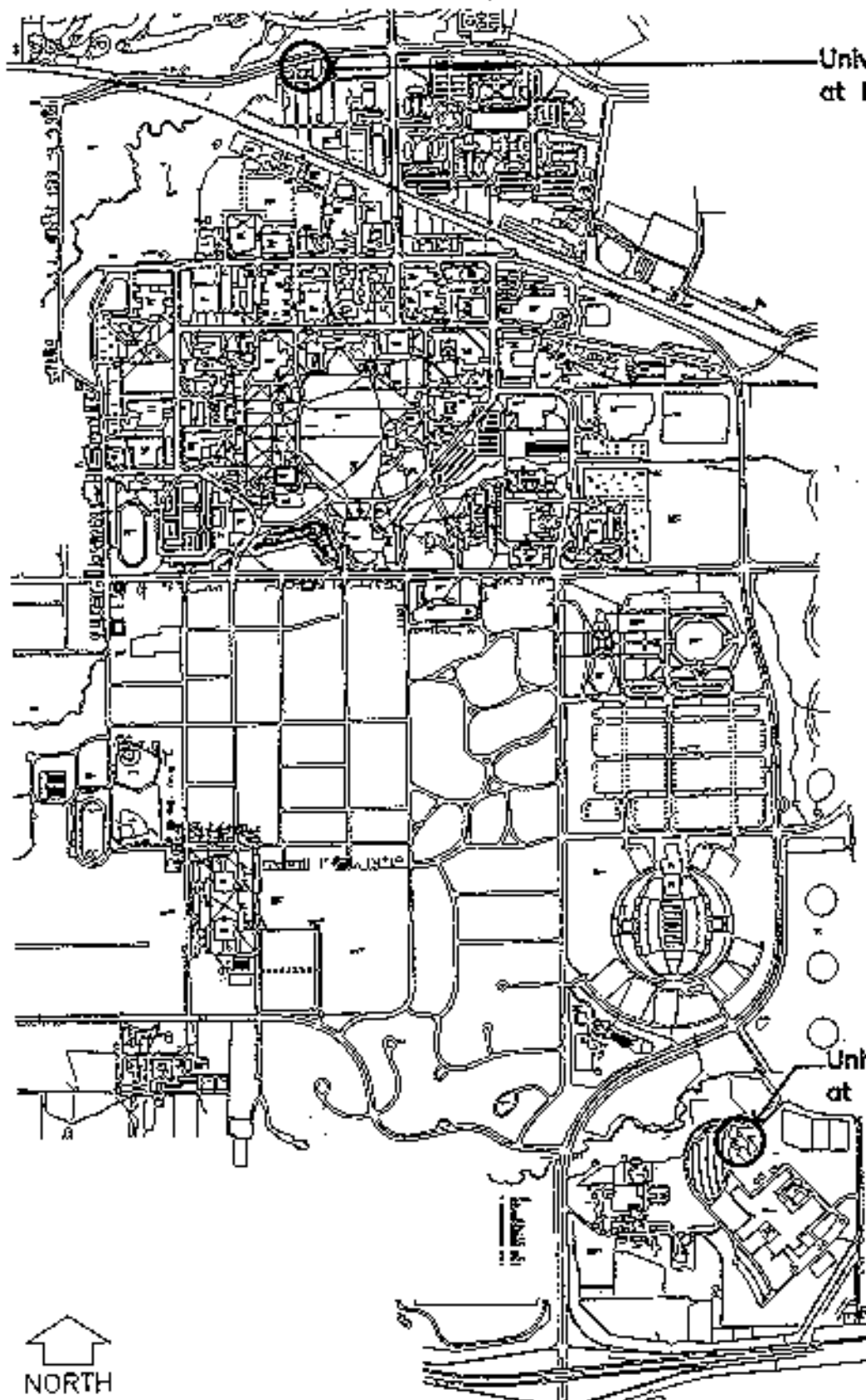
The program for pre-school children emphasizes enhancement of social skills, large and small motor development and pre-kindergarten cognitive learning. The after school program emphasizes cooperative play and learning.

Student parents residing in the University Apartments continue to express need for full-time childcare. It is the preference of the parents that care be provided within the complex.

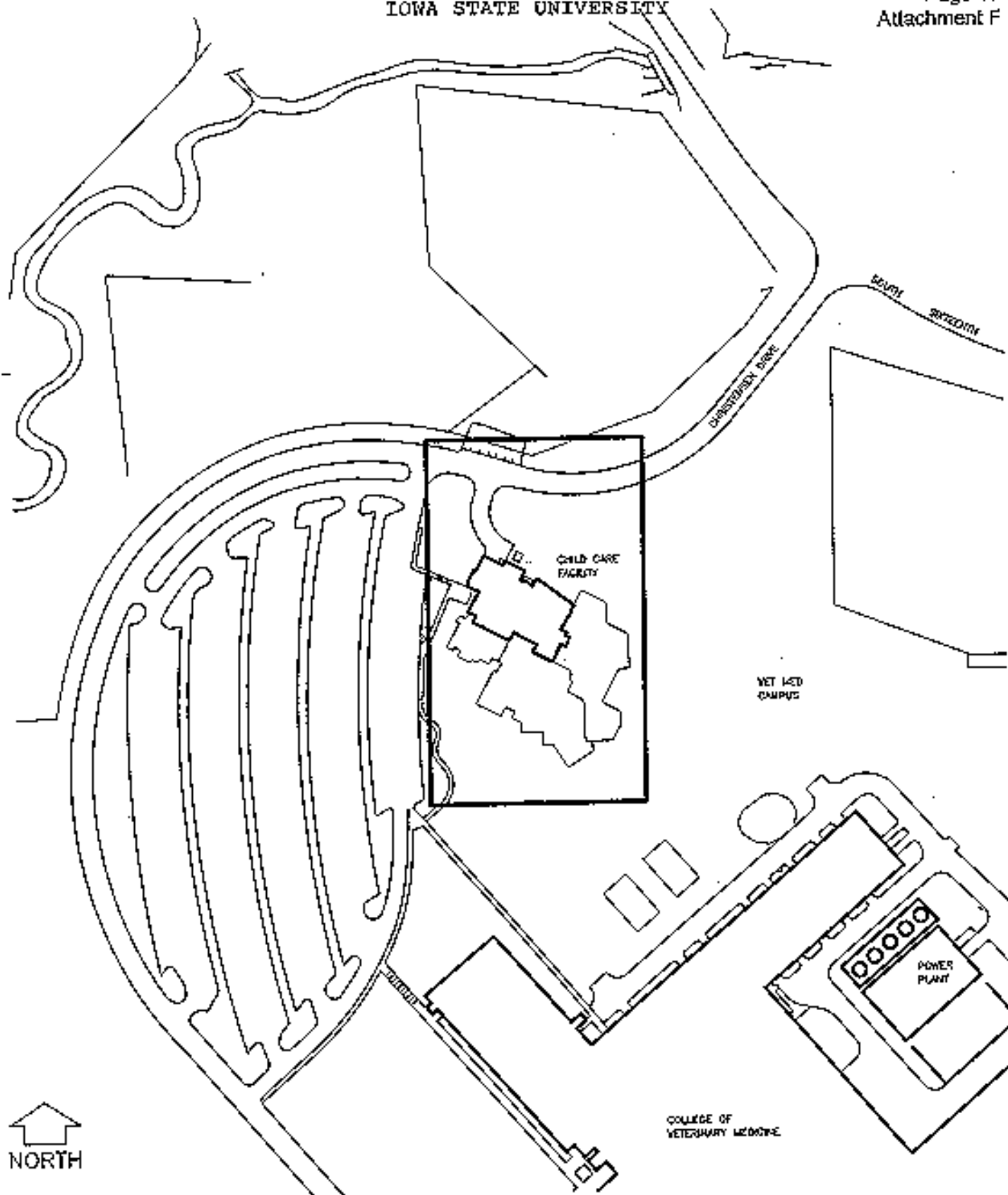
The director of the University Apartments on campus has initiated an exploratory process to attempt to expand the availability of fulltime care for infants and toddlers. Currently, there are about 8 infants, 15 toddlers, and 15 pre-school children in the complex who need care. This effort is in the beginning stages to explore options for suitable space, funds for remodeling, and budget for personnel. No additional programs will be in place for the 2000-2001 year.



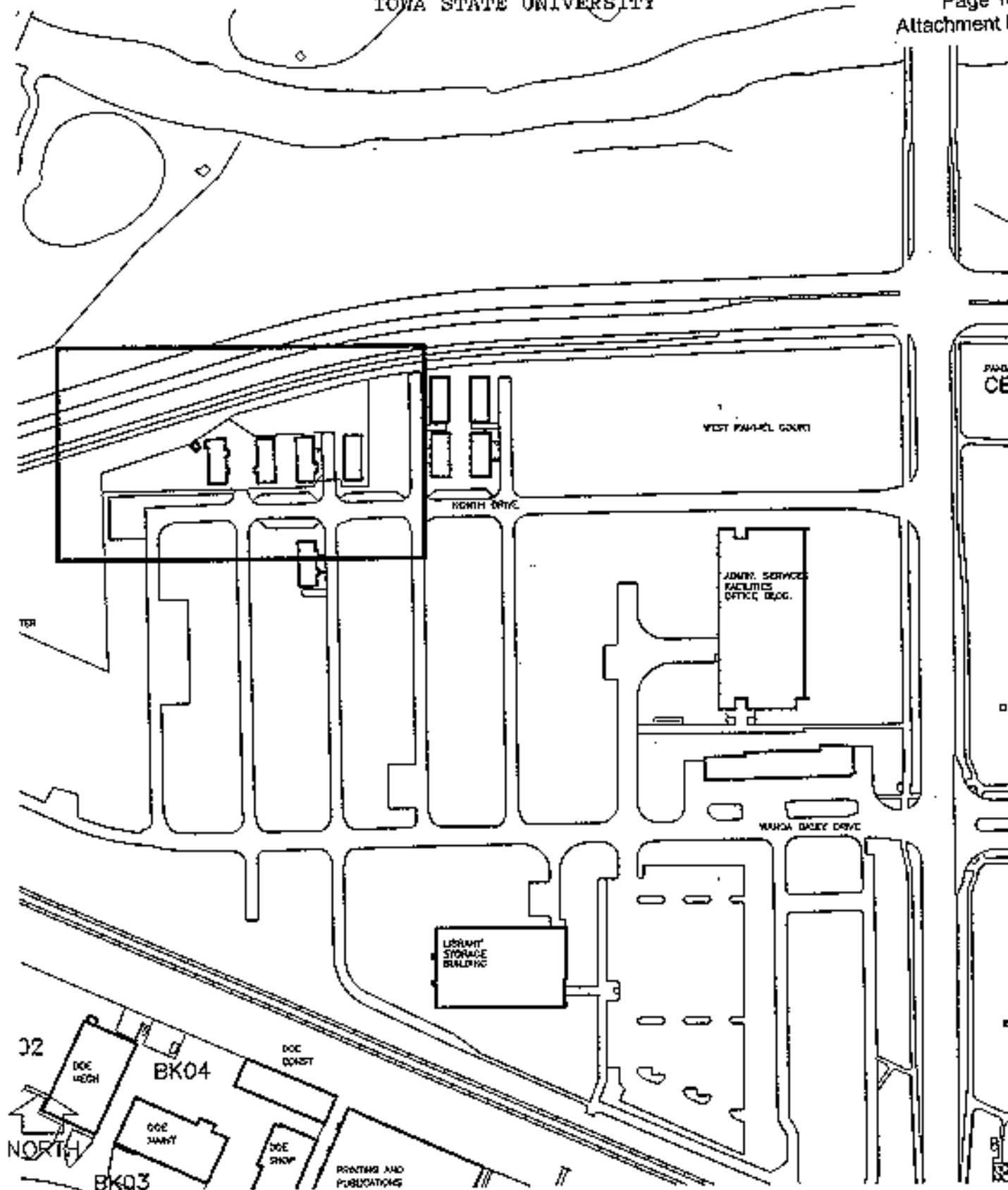
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University Child Care Center
at Pammel CourtUniversity Child Care Center
at Vet Med

REVISIONS:	Child Care Center Locations	APPROVED BY:
COMPLETED:		CHECKED BY:
ISSUED:	FACILITIES PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	DESIGNED BY:
DATE: APRIL 18, 1993		SCALE: not to scale
		REQUEST NO.
		SHEET NO.



REVISIONS:	University Child Care Center at Veterinary Medicine	APPROVED BY:
COMPLETED:		CHECKED BY:
ISSUED:	FACILITIES PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	DESIGNED BY:
DATE: APRIL 16, 1993		SCALE: not to scale
		REQUEST NO.
		SHEET NO.

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REVISIONS:	University Child Care Center at Pammel Court	APPROVED BY:
COMPLETED:		CHECKED BY:
ISSUED:	FACILITIES PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	DESIGNED BY:
DATE: APRIL 18, 1993		SCALE: not to scale
	AMES, IOWA	REQUEST NO.
		SHEET NO.



- A, B, C, G, H, R Parking Lots
- ★ Handicapped permit parking
- ▲ Wheelchair-accessible entrances
- Principal Walkways
- University Buildings
- Campus Streets

Child Development Center

Building numbers begin at the north end of campus and continue to the south.

- Residence and Dining Areas
- 14 Bartlett Hall
 - 2 Bender Hall
 - 8 Campbell Hall
 - 54 College Courts
 - 13 Commons Dining Center
 - 4 Danner Hall
 - 42 Hagermann Hall
 - 58 Hillside Courts
 - 59 Jockings Courts
 - 12 Lawther Hall
 - 48 Nothman Hall
 - 47 Redeker Center
 - 61 Residence on the Hill (ROTH)
 - 43 Rider Hall
 - 49 Shull Hall
 - 3 Towers Dining Center
 - 60 University Apartments Office

- Academic and Activity Areas
- 6 Athletic Fields
 - 34 Baker Hall
 - 46 Biology Research Complex
 - 5 Game Adventure Headquarters
 - 57 Center for Energy and Environmental Education
 - 28 Communication Arts Center
 - 9 Continuing Education Non-Credit Programs
 - 33 Courts Business Building
 - 19 East Gymnasium and Pool
 - 35 Industrial Technology Center
 - 20 Kainerick Art Building
 - 21 Lang Hall (University Auditorium) (closed for renovation 1998-2000)
 - 45 Latham Hall
 - 41 McCollum Science Hall
 - 20 Physics Building
 - 1 Police Laboratory School
 - 39 Psychology No. 1
 - 25 Rod Library
 - 32 Russell Hall
 - 26 Sabin Hall
 - 18 Schindler Education Center
 - 37 Seerley Hall
 - 31 Strayer-Wood Theatre
 - 7 Wellness/Recreation Center
 - 23 West Gymnasium
 - 35 Wright Hall

Administration and Institutional Areas

- 18 Art B
- 24 Campaigne
- 16 Center for Educational Technology
- 12 Commons
- 29 Conferences & Visitor Services/University Visitor Center
- 22 Center for Multicultural Education
- 50 Gallagher-Bloodom Performing Arts Center (open 2000)
- 44 Gilchrist Hall
- 40 Greenhouse
- 15 International Services/Individual Studies
- 39 Marshall Center School
- 26 Maucke University Union
- 56 Museum
- 53 Physical Plant
- 52 Power Plant
- 27 President's Home
- 14A Student Services Center
- 17 UNL-Dome
- 11 University Health Services
- 51 Visitor & Information Center

Campus Information:
(319) 273-2511
UNI-Dome Ticket Information:
(319) 273-6131
Visitor and Information Center:
(319) 273-8864

University Apartments